

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/977,894

Examiner

Nirav Patel

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/29/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20070816.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with the applicant representative, Mr. Thorson Chad (Registration No. 55,675) on 08/13/2007. During the telephone conference, Mr. Thorson has agreed and authorized examiner to amend claims 1, 7, 15 and cancel claims 23-25 to distinguish over the prior arts of record.

CLAIMS:

a. Referring to claim 1:

Please replace claim 1 as follows:

A system for sharing digital literary works while protecting against an illegal reproduction through a communication network, comprising:

a data communication network;

a list providing server for providing list information of a Sharing

Web;

at least one agent server for forming the Sharing Web between users through the data communication network and mediating a data communication through the Sharing Web;

at least one user terminal for transmitting and receiving a digital literary work through the Sharing Web;

a main server for accessing a Sharing Web listed in the list information provided from the list providing server through the data communication network, searching for the digital literary work shared through the Sharing Web according to a predetermined search condition, determining whether or not the searched digital literary work has an identifier which is associated with at least one of a plurality of variably located portions of the digital literary work, deciding a digital literary work to be shared among the digital literary works, which are inputted by a supervisor and have a identifier, according to the determination result and literary work information requiring the protection, inputted by the supervisor, and generating accessing information of the Sharing Web, the decision regarding whether to share the digital literary work being based only on existence of the identifier in the digital literary work;

at least one sub-server for receiving information of the digital literary work decided to be shared and the accessing information of the Sharing Web from the main server, connected to the agent server

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depending on the accessing information, and allowing a sharing of the digital literary work decided to be shared;

a premise communication network for connecting the main server and the sub-server to each other; and

a network interface unit for connecting the premise communication network to the data communication network,

wherein a position of the identifier within the digital literary work is determined based on transmission rules between the main server and the at least one agent server.

b. Referring to claim 7:

Please replace claim 7 as follows:

A method of sharing digital literary works while protecting against an illegal reproduction through a communication network, comprising the steps of:

a) inputting and storing literary work information requiring the protection of its copyright and a digital literary work having an identifier in a main server by a supervisor, the identifier being associated with at least one of a plurality of variably located portions of the digital literary work;

b) connecting said main server to an agent server mediating a Sharing Web by the main server, and searching for a digital literary work

shared through the Sharing Web according to a search condition set by the supervisor;

c) downloading the searched digital literary work from the Sharing Web to the main server, determining whether or not the identifier exists in the digital literary work, and deciding the digital literary work to be "pass" or "fail" with respect to its shareability according to the determination result by the main server, the decision regarding shareability being based only on existence of the identifier in the digital literary work;

d) generating and storing information of a digital literary work to be shared by the main server against the digital literary work decided to be "fail" as to its shareability among the digital literary works having the identifier, according to the literary work information requiring the protection of its copyright; and

e) accessing the Sharing Web, sharing a list of the digital literary work to be shared, and transmitting the list to the user when a transmission request for the digital literary work to be shared from a predetermined Sharing Web user is received,

wherein a position of the identifier within the digital literary work is determined based on transmission rules between the main server and the agent server.

c. Referring to claim 15:

Please replace claim 15 as follows:

A method of sharing digital literary works while protecting against an illegal reproduction through a communication network, comprising the steps of:

a) inputting and having literary work information requiring the protection of its copyright and a digital literary work having an identifier in a main server by a supervisor, the identifier being associated with at least one of a plurality of variably located portions of the digital literary work;

b) connecting the main server to an agent server mediating a Sharing Web by the main server, and searching for a digital literary work shared through the Sharing Web according to a search condition set by the supervisor;

c) downloading the searched digital literary work from the Sharing Web to the main server, determining whether or not the identifier exists in the digital literary work, and deciding the digital literary work to be "pass" or "fail" with respect to its shareability according to the determination result by the main server the decision regarding shareability being based only on existence of the identifier in the digital literary work;

d) generating and storing information of a digital literary work to be shared by the main server against the digital literary work decided to be "fail"

among the digital literary works having the identifier according to the literary work information requiring the protection of its copyright by the main server;

e) generating and storing accessing information of the Sharing Web, and determining a division of system resources required to share the digital literary work to be shared. by the main server;

f) transmitting a sharing execution command from the main server to a sub-server in response to the division information of system resources; and

g) connecting the sub-server to the main server, receiving the accessing information of Sharing Web to be accessed and information of the digital literary work to be shared according to the sharing execution command from the main server, accessing the Sharing Web by the accessing information, and allowing a sharing of the digital literary work to be shared,

wherein a position of the identifier within the digital literary work is determined based on transmission rules between the main server and the agent server.

d. Please cancel claims 23-25

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-22 are allowed.

Conclusion

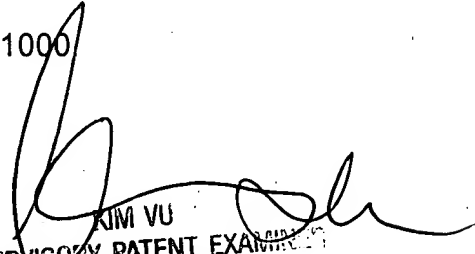
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nirav Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-5936. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 4:30 pm (M-F).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NBP

08/16/07


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